

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF SEPTEMBER 21ST, 1931.

The Board of Public Works met at the offices of the Governor, Annapolis, on Monday, September 21st, 1931.

Present:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
John M. Dennis, Treasurer.

A Committee of the Tercentenary Commission appeared before the Board relative to a site for the new building to be known as the Memorial Hall of Records in Annapolis. Among those present were Mr. Duvall, Mr. Daniel R. Randall, and Mr. Noble, a member of the Board of St. John's College. Several sites were discussed, and in addition it was understood that two other sites were to be considered; but that the data regarding them was not available because it had not been collected up to the time of the meeting. The matter was deferred until a further meeting. In the meantime such other data as could be gotten regarding sites under consideration was to be secured.

"Tercentenary Commission"

The Governor stated that the United States Government was issuing a license permitting the erection of the tablet on Blackistone Island, a landing site of the Maryland Pilgrims. This license would contain certain restrictions imposed by the Federal Government because of the property being subject to Federal rules and regulations.

The Governor brought to the attention of the Board some data he had received concerning the Chicago International Exposition of 1933, and the Board considered the advisability of having the State of Maryland represented at this Exposition inasmuch as it was understood most of the States would be represented.

The Board concluded it desirable to be represented at the Exposition, and delegated the Secretary to go to Chicago and confer with the Director of Exhibits of the Exposition, and tentatively arrange for space, etc., in connection with the exhibit of the State of Maryland.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication received from the Baltimore Coal Exchange complaining about the State Hay Scales on Greenmount and Myrtle Avenues, Baltimore. The communication was read, and is as follows:

BALTIMORE COAL EXCHANGE

20-24 Light St.

Baltimore, Maryland.

September 17, 1931.

Mr. J.O.C. McCusker,
Deputy Chief Comptroller,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Sir:-

I have just received a letter from Mr. S. T. Griffith, Chief of the Division of Weights and Measures Bureau of Standards this city, regarding what is commonly termed as State Hay Scales located on Greenmount Ave., and 1506 Myrtle Ave.

Recently several loads of coal have been weighed on these scales to the embarrassment of the party having the weighing done. It is my understanding that such scales as the two sets in question are not suitable for the weighing of coal trucks, or in fact any trucks on which the load is not properly distributed, as these two hay scales are the old type four-point platforms for wagon loads and proper weight cannot be secured when anything like capacity loads are placed thereon.

It is our opinion in order to avoid embarrassment in the future, that these scales should be replaced with modern appliances, or the weigher in charge should be instructed not to weigh loaded coal trucks. We sincerely trust

you will use your influence to have the necessary changes made with reference to the scales in question.

I would be pleased to have your re-action to this request at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. F. Palmer,
Executive Secretary.

JFP.h

The Secretary was instructed to notify the Inspector at the Scales to discontinue weighing coal or any other merchandise which the scales are not adapted to weigh, and to notify the Baltimore Coal Exchange of the action of the Board.

The Secretary also brought to the attention of the Board a communication received from Mr. Elisha S. Imes, 702 Mosher Street, Baltimore, complaining about the condition of the Hay Scales property on Myrtle Avenue. The Secretary reported he had made an investigation of the complaint, and found the same justified, and the Hay Scales property in very bad shape. The Board decided it was not justified in spending any money for repairs to the property, but authorized the Secretary to do anything which would remove any dangerous condition.

Mr. Kirkman appeared before the Board with plans and specifications for sprinkler systems to be installed in the State House Dome, Spring Grove State Hospital, and Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium. He stated he would secure prices for doing the work and would submit them at a later meeting of the Board.

The Board considered the request of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that he be allowed to charge from the books of his office the amount of \$30.00 carried as accounts receivable from former Magistrate James A. Hudgins, 1141 S. Linwood Avenue, Baltimore.

It was decided the account was uncollectible, and that the Commissioner should be authorized to charge the same from his books.

The following letter from the Board of Welfare was read and considered:

BOARD OF WELFARE

July 17th, 1931

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Clerk,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:

We are asking approval of contracts as follows:

MARYLAND STATE PENAL FARM, ROXBURY, MD.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Minter Homes Corp. - Temporary Barracks - | \$29,306.00 |
| Wm. Hellbach & Co. - Plumbing work in connection with temporary barracks | 20,700.00 |
| Wm. Hellbach & Co. - Heating contract in connection with temporary barracks | 18,600.00 |
| Miller-Liskey Electrical Co. - Electrical work in connection with temporary barracks | 3,393.00 |
| Wm. H. Thompson Construction Co. - Sanitary Sewers | 10,450.003 |

MARYLAND HOUSE OF CORRECTION

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Herbert J. West - Alterations to old bath house to be used as dispensary bldg. | 17,796.00 |
| Van Dorn Iron Works Co. - Steel jail work | 1,575.00 |

Payment of all the above work to be made from the loan appropriation of 1929, authorizing the construction of a new State Prison.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert D. Case.
Secretary & Treasurer.

RDC/H

The request for approval of the contracts enumerated was granted.

The Board of Welfare requested authority to charge from its books \$47.25 due from R. L. Melvin for account of Maryland House of Correction. The Attorney General had advised that he considered this account uncollectible, and that it should be charged off.

The request of the Board of Welfare for authority to write this account off was granted.

The Miners Hospital, in accordance with instructions from the State Auditor, submitted a list of bad accounts amounting to \$1,897.10 due from persons who had received treatment, and asked that authority be given to charge ^{off} these accounts as uncollectible.

The authority was granted.

read:

The following letter from the Board of Welfare was

Board of Welfare.

September 4th, 1931.

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Clerk,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

We are asking approval of contracts as follows:

MARYLAND PENITENTIARY

| | |
|---|-------------|
| J. S. Thorn & Co. - Metal Sash and frame and apparatus for operating windows | \$19,240.00 |
| Charles H. Minor - Tile floor for dining-room | 11,729.00 |

MARYLAND STATE PENAL FARM, ROXBURY, MD.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Dorr Co. - Mechanical equipment for the sewerage treatment plant | 7,727.00 |
|---|----------|

Payment of the contracts for the Maryland Penitentiary
to be made from special appropriation available February 15 th, 1932
at which time payment will be made on these contracts.

Payment on the Dorr Co. contract to be made from the Loan
appropriation of 1929.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert D. Case.

Secretary & Treasurer.

RDC/H

After due consideration the Board approved the
contracts enumerated.

A letter from Spring Grove State Hospital, asking

authority for the purchase of cement, sand, and stone, and some lumber, to be paid for out of the General Construction Loan of 1929, and to be purchased through the Central Purchasing Bureau was read and considered.

The necessary approval was granted.

The following letter from the State Department of Forestry was read and considered:

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

August 26th, 1931.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis,
Maryland.

Gentlemen:-

The Forestry Department in extending its system of lookout towers for the detection of forest fires in the State seeks approval for the purchase and erection of a 100-foot tower on the Maryland - Delaware line, near Hickman, in Caroline County, in which Maryland will pay half of the expense and Delaware the other half.

The tower will rest half in each State, the form of agreement having been approved by the Attorney-General. The estimated cost of the tower, completed, is approximately \$1900., of which Maryland will pay one-half, or \$950.

Approval is also requested for the rebuilding of a steel tower on Warrior Mountain, about five miles north of Oldtown, in Allegany County. The present 47-foot tower is not high enough to give proper visibility. It is proposed to take this down, purchase additional steel work to convert it into a 93-foot tower, at an estimated cost of \$1000.

It is understood that the itemized bill with the approval of the Central Purchasing Bureau, where required, will be submitted, payment to be made from the construction loan to the credit of the Forestry Department.

Very truly yours,

/s/ F. W. Besley,
State Forester.

FWB.r

The Board approved the request that the State Board of Forestry be authorized to make the necessary contracts for erecting the towers as mentioned in its letter. The necessary authority was granted.

The request of Springfield State Hospital that it be allowed to remodel its industrial building, with funds provided in the General Construction Loan of 1929, for use as a home for male nurses was approved. *

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Joseph J. McCusker
Secretary
SPRINGFIELD STATE HOSPITAL

September 7, 1931.

Mr. J.O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works, Annapolis, Md.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date relative to authorization of funds appropriated in the construction loan of 1929 for the purpose of remodeling a building for male nurses and an industrial shop.

After a careful consideration of the matter, the Board decided that it was much more economical and feasible to go ahead and construct an entirely new industrial shop rather than to attempt to remodel the old building which would have given us poor facilities both for industrial shop purposes and housing for male nurses. As a result of this decision, we have constructed a brand new industrial shop which will care for the needs of the Institution for the next ten years.

The matter of housing male nurses has been adequately cared for by adding a few rooms in our old Service Building and also by the fact that a great many of our nurses are now rooming away from the Hospital.

The Board felt that the present arrangement was not only more economical but a more satisfactory arrangement from all standpoints.

Hoping this information is satisfactory, I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ E. P. Bledsoe,
Superintendent.

EPB

JHT:W